

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for use in a leather industry for embossing leather textiles, said apparatus comprising:

first and second rolls;

5 a heated embossing roll operable to have the leather textiles wrapped around at least a portion thereof;

a tension roll; and

a felt belt operable to be wrapped around at least a portion of the tension roll and the first and second rolls, and over the leather textiles wrapped
10 around the embossing roll, the felt belt being under tension in the range of 10 – 500 N/mm,

wherein said apparatus is operable to enable the leather textiles to be conveyed around the embossing roll between the felt belt and the embossing roll so as to be embossed.

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2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first and second rolls, the tension roll, and the embossing roll are arranged so as to not to form a nip between any two rolls.

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3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each of the first and second rolls, the embossing roll, and the tension roll has a cylindrical shape.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the felt belt has a high thermal, chemical and mechanical resistance, and is permeable to fluid.

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5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein either the embossing roll, the felt belt, or both, is used as a texturing medium.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the leather textiles are either
30 natural leather and/or artificial leather.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the artificial leather comprises textiles or a layer of hide coated with polyurethane (PU) or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) resins, leather coated with PU resins, or artificial suedes produced by needle punching.

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8. A felt belt for embossing leather textiles and usable in an arrangement of first and second rolls; a heated embossing roll operable to have the leather textiles wrapped around at least a portion thereof; and a tension roll;

10 wherein the felt belt is wrapped around at least a portion of the tension roll and the first and second rolls, and over the leather textiles wrapped around the embossing roll, the felt belt being under tension in the range of 10 – 500 N/mm; and the leather textiles are conveyed around the embossing roll between the felt belt and the embossing roll so as to be embossed.

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9. The felt belt of claim 8, wherein the belt has a high thermal, chemical and mechanical resistance, and is permeable to fluid.

10. The felt belt of claim 8, wherein either the embossing roll, the felt belt, or both, are used as a texturing medium.

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11. The felt belt of claim 8, wherein either the leather textiles are either natural leather and/or artificial leather.

25 12. The felt belt of claim 11, wherein the artificial leather comprises textiles or a layer of hide coated with polyurethane (PU) or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) resins, leather coated with PU resins, or artificial suedes produced by needle punching.

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